

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 VIENTI 00256 081037Z
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 ACDA-07 AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DHA-02 IO-13
DPW-01 EB-08 IGA-02 /106 W
-----081042Z 093204 /15

R 080830Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7681
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 0256

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAID EAIR EWWT MOPS CASC ECON VN GW US CB SW GE
SUBJ: FRG AMBASSADOR TO SRV DISCUSSES GERMAN AID, MIA,
CONDITIONS IN PHNOM PENH

REF: 76 VIENTIANE 2789

1. WEST GERMAN AMBASSADOR TO SRV SCHOLZ SAID FRG STILL
HAS NO FIRM PLANS TO PROVIDE AID TO VIETNAM. SCHOLZ
TALKED TO POLOFF AND ME ON HIS WAY BACK TO HANOI AFTER
ABOUT TWO MONTHS' CONSULTATIONS AND LEAVE IN GERMANY.

2. SCHOLZ SAID FRG WILL PROVIDE ABOUT TWO MILLION
MARKS INSURANCE FOR GERMAN EXPORTS BUT HAS NOT YET
DECIDED ON ANY GERMAN AID. HE POINTED OUT TO BONN THAT
VIETNAMESE LACKED INFRASTRUCTURE AND EXPERTISE TO
ABSORB AID. HE NOTED THAT SWEDISH INTEGRATED WOOD
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 VIENTI 00256 081037Z

PRODUCT FACTORY WAS NOT WORKING OUT WELL, WITH COSTS
RISING FROM .5 TO 1.3 BILLION KRONER. HE ALSO OBSERVED
THAT EVEN EAST GERMAN SHIPS HAD TO WAIT THREE MONTHS IN
HAIPHONG HARBOR TO UNLOAD.

3. SCHOLZ SAID THAT VIETNAMESE VERY MUCH WANTED US AID
BUT HE HAD URGED THEM NOT TO DEMAND IT UNDER PARIS

AGREEMENT WHICH THEY HAD VIOLATED. INSTEAD HE SUGGESTED THEY FOLLOW EXAMPLE OF GERMANY WHICH HAD SUCCEEDED IN OBTAINING MASSIVE US AID ALTHOUGH IT HAD BEEN OUR CHIEF ENEMY IN WORLD WAR II. HE ALSO SAID HE HAD URGED VIETNAMESE TO PROVIDE US AN ACCOUNTING OF MIA'S FOR HUMANITARIAN REASONS. HE BELIEVED THERE WERE NO LIVE AMERICANS IN NORTH BUT PROBABLY SOME DESERTERS IN SOUTH, ALTHOUGH HE HAD NO HARD EVIDENCE OF THIS.

4. SCHOLZ CONTINUED THAT GERMAN BUSINESSMEN HAD BEEN VERY INTERESTED IN DOING BUSINESS WITH VIETNAM UNTIL HE ARRIVED HOME AND RAISED QUESTION WITH THEM OF HOW VIETNAMESE WERE GOING TO PAY FOR GERMAN PRODUCTS. VIETNAMESE CHARGE IN BONN, WHO SPOKE EXCELLENT GERMAN AFTER BEING EDUCATED IN EAST GERMANY, HAD DONE MUCH TO AROUSE INTEREST OF GERMAN FIRMS.

5. VIETNAMESE, HE SAID, TOLD HIM THEY VERY MUCH WANTED FOREIGN CREDITS TO PURCHASE IMPORTS. BUT, HE ADDED, GERMAN BUSINESSMEN WERE LEARY AFTER EXPERIENCE WITH NORTH KOREAN DEBTS.

6. SCHOLZ ALSO NOTED THAT VIETNAMESE WOULD HAVE GREAT DIFFICULTIES IN REUNITING NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN PARTS OF COUNTRY AND CITED CURRENT PROBLEM OF UNIFYING CURRENCY THROUGHOUT COUNTRY.

7. SCHOLZ ALSO TALKED BRIEFLY ABOUT HIS CONVERSATION WITH YUGOSLAV CHARGE FROM PHNOM PENH WHO INITIALLY TOLD CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 VIENTI 00256 081037Z

HIM THAT CONDITIONS IN PHNOM PENH WERE NOT AS BAD AS REPORTED IN PRESS. LATER, HOWEVER, HE TOLD SCHOLZ HE LIVED IN FORMER GERMAN EMBASSY RESIDENCE AND ASKED IF HE COULD OPEN TRUNKS WHICH HAD BEEN LEFT THERE TO SEE IF THERE WAS ANY WHISKY SINCE IT COST \$37 A BOTTLE IN PHNOM PENH DIPLOMATIC STORE. YUGOSLAV ALSO SAID HE WAS GETTING FOND OF COOKING CHICKEN FOR HIMSELF, SINCE APPARENTLY THAT WAS ONLY MEAT HE COULD OBTAIN. HE HAD NOT SEEN SIHANOUK BUT HAD HEARD HE WAS WELL, WRITING HIS MEMOIRS, AND CULTIVATING HIS GARDEN.

8. SCHOLZ NOTED THAT YUGOSLAV HAD COME TO HANOI FROM PHNOM PENH VIA PEKING AND HAD TO RETURN BY SAME ROUTE.

HE SAID AIR VIETNAM FLIES TO AND FROM PHNOM PENH ONLY TWICE A MONTH AND EVEN THEN WITH ONLY ABOUT THREE PASSENGERS A TRIP. VIETNAMESE, HE ADDED, KNEW FLIGHTS WOULD NOT BE PROFITABLE WHEN THEY STARTED THEM BUT DID SO ANYWAY FOR POLITICAL REASONS.

9. COMMENT: WHEN SCHOLZ LAST TALKED TO US IN NOVEMBER
ON HIS WAY OUT FROM HANOI BACK TO BONN, AS REPORTED
REFTEL, HE SAID HE WAS GOING TO URGE FRG TO PROVIDE AID.
CORCORAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MIA, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977VIENTI00256
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770044-0565
Format: TEL
From: VIENTIANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770260/aaaacbon.tel
Line Count: 121
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 56a7acc9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 VIENTIANE 2789
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3374525
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRG AMBASSADOR TO SRV DISCUSSES GERMAN AID, MIA, CONDITIONS IN PHNOM PENH
TAGS: EAID, EAIR, EWWT, MOPS, CASC, ECON, VN, GE, US, CB, SW, GC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/56a7acc9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009